

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 34003.SS/P034
Customer No.: 000027683

III. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Status of the Application

In the present response, claims 1 – 23 and 29 – 48 are cancelled. Claim 26 is amended. Claims 49 – 66 are added. Thus, claims 24 – 28 and 49 – 66 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.116, as it places the application in condition for allowance, or at least in better condition for appeal.

B. Rejection of Claims 1 – 24 and 29 – 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 – 24 and 29 – 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,331,454 to Yamada et al. ("Yamada"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,987,312 to Eigler ("Eigler"), and/or an article by Beton et al. entitled "Manipulation of C₆₀ molecules on a Si surface" ("Beton").

Applicants have cancelled claims 1 – 24 and 29 – 48. The cancellation herein of claims 1 – 24 and 29 – 48 is made without prejudice or disclaimer, as Applicants may pursue the subject matter of these claims in a continuation application.

In view of the cancellation, however, Applicant submits that the present rejection of claims 1 – 24 and 29 – 48 has been rendered moot, and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

D. Claim 26

Claim 26 has been amended to depend from claim 25, instead of claim 24. Each of claims 24 – 28 stands allowed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 26 as amended herein, is allowable.

C. New Claims 49 – 66

New claims 49 – 66 each depend directly or indirectly from one of claims 24 – 28. Each of claims 24 – 28 stands allowed. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 49 – 66 are allowable for at least the same reasons that apply to claims 24 – 28.

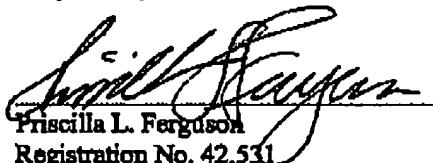
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D. Conclusion

Claims 24 – 28 and 49 – 66 are now pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing remarks, allowance of claims 24 – 28 and 49 – 66 is respectfully requested. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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